

June 2010

The Sugar Maple Tree (*Acer saccharum*) By Ariane Zimmerman

The sugar maple is my favorite tree. It is part of my family history. The syrup I put on my pancakes and ice cream comes from these trees. So does the sugar I mix with nuts. That’s yummy!

In Spring, my tree’s sap flows up to the leaves in the day and down to the roots at night. Sap can be collected by putting a spout in a tree and hanging a bucket from it.

I learned that trees tapped in one area, are called a sugar bush. That sounds good to me.

Many maple tree’s live in Wisconsin. The colors of the leaves are red, green, and yellow. My favorite tree can be 130 feet high! That’s almost 33 of me!

A nice green tree shaded my playground the whole Summer!

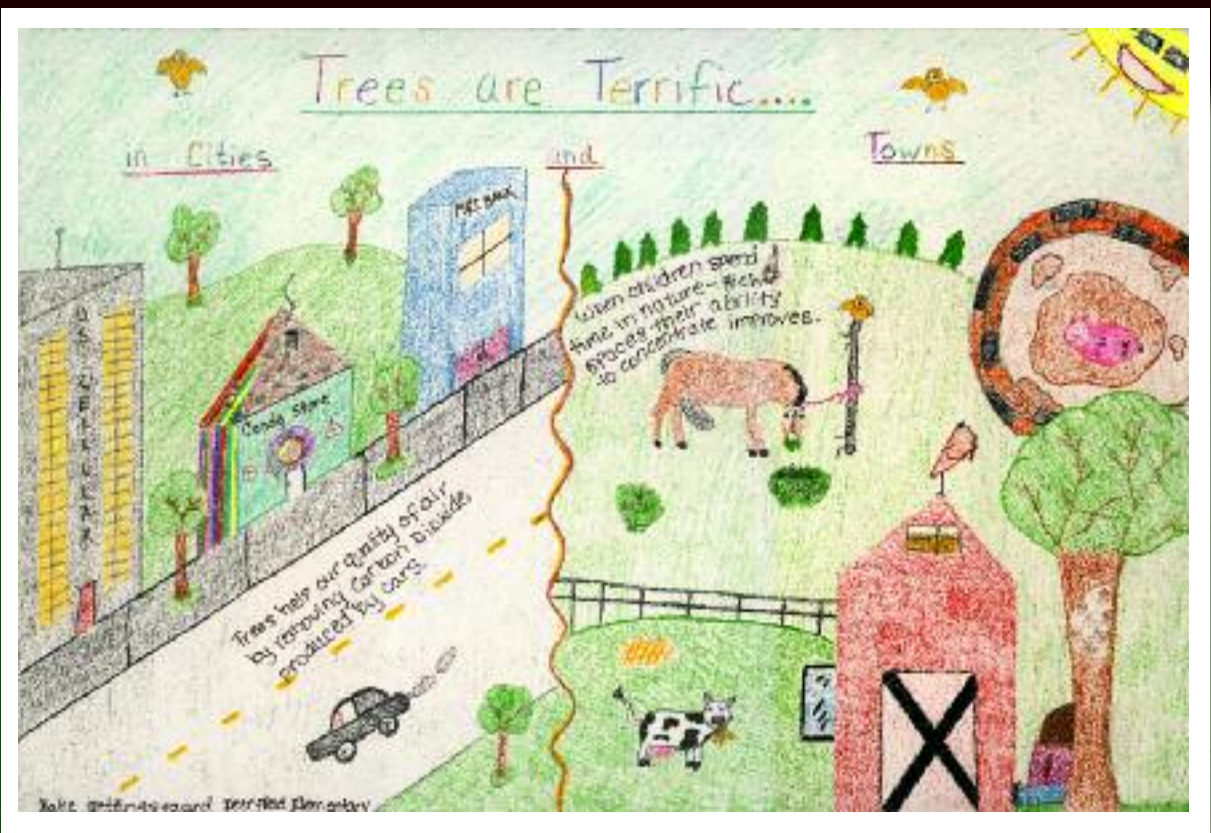
In Autumn I love to jump in the red and yellow leaves.

In Winter I watch a squirrel climb up the tree and I yell to it “Wait for me!”

My Great Grandparents, Grandparents, and Parents collected sap and took it to my Great Uncle, who was one of the leading producers of maple syrup in the world!

This is why the sugar maple is my favorite tree.

Pleasant View Elementary, Antigo
Honorable Mention
Teacher: S. Hendrickson



Calendar Art by Katie Settingsgaard • School: Deerfield Elementary, Oak Creek • Honorable Mention
Teacher: Amy Asala

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Bullfrogs begin calling. Listen for their deep bass notes sounding like, “jug-o rum.”	3	4	5 National Trails Day – Go take a hike! Free Fishing Weekend (Jun 5 – Jun 6)
6 State Parks open house day	7	8 Look for turtles laying eggs along shorelines.	9 Indian paintbrush in bloom. It looks like a brush dipped in red paint.	10	11 Peak time for deer fawn births.	12 What is Wisconsin’s State Flower? Look for them in bloom in wet woodland and meadow areas or along roadsides.
13	14 Flag Day	15	16 Strawberry season is here. Head out to a berry patch and pick a sweet treat!	17 Sandhill crane chicks learn to fly.	18 Milkweed blooms. During World War II, students from Wisconsin schools collected 283,000 bags of milkweed fluff for use in military life jackets.	19
20 Father’s Day	21 Summer begins. Get outside and enjoy the longest day of the year!	22	23 The first Louisville Slugger was made from white ash (1884). Today both ash and maple are used for wooden baseball bats.	24	25	26 Full (Strawberry) Moon Enjoy the full moon during the Great American Backyard Campout!
27	28 Paul Bunyan Day – This mythical lumberjack appears in many tall tales about 19th-century logging.	29 Watch for fireflies as they light up the night. There are over 136 different species of firefly, and each one has its own distinct light pattern.	30			

MAY 10

1
2 3 4 5 6 7 8
9 10 11 12 13 14 15
16 17 18 19 20 21 22
23 24 25 26 27 28 29
30 31

JULY 10

1 2 3
4 5 6 7 8 9 10
11 12 13 14 15 16 17
18 19 20 21 22 23 24
25 26 27 28 29 30 31



Fruit

The Black walnut fruit is a large, round *nut*, borne singly or in pairs and enclosed in a solid green husk. This husk does not open even after the nut is ripe. The nut is black and very hard with a thick, finely-ridged shell. Enclosed in the nut is a rich, oily kernel, which is edible and highly nutritious.

Black Walnut (*Juglans nigra*)

Form

Black walnut trees are often 100 feet tall. When grown in the open, they have a short stem and broad, spreading crown.

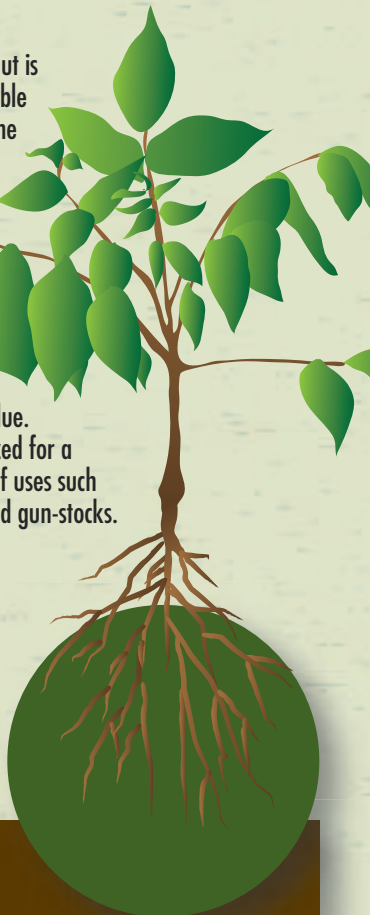
Leaf

Black walnut leaves are compound, 1 to 2 feet long, consisting of 7 to 11 pairs of yellow-green leaflets. The leaflets are smooth above, pale and hairy underneath, and about 3 inches long. They are extremely tapered at the ends and toothed along the margin.

Wood

The Black walnut is the most valuable forest tree in the state. It’s rich, chocolate-

brown heart-wood is of superior quality and value. It is highly prized for a great variety of uses such as furniture and gun-stocks.



Visit the WDNR Forestry Website: <http://dnr.wi.gov/forestry>